

Capsule Summary  
SM-537  
The Clements House  
Leonardtown  
Private

c.1908

In the 1900s, Joseph H. and Mattie M. Key sold several 1/8 acre tracts of land along the west side of Washington Street in an effort to bolster a residential community near the Leonardtown wharf. In 1908, Rosa M. Clements purchased one of these tracts. Soon after this transaction, she erected a frame, two-and-a-half story, gable-front house on the lot that has remained in the Clements family until 1981. Unlike any other building located on lower Washington Street, the Clements dwelling contributes to the significant diversity of early-twentieth century building types in the Leonardtown wharf vicinity. It also symbolizes the significant growth and economic development in Leonardtown during that timeperiod as well as the continual presence of several distinct families in the wharf area over the past 80 years.

SM-537, The Clements House  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Industrial Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Historic Period Theme:	Architecture

Resource Type

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Town
Historic Function and Use:	Residence
Known Design Source:	None

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. SM-537

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic The Clements House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number W side of Washington Street, 0.1 mile N of Leonardtown wharf not for publication

city, town Leonardtown    vicinity of    congressional district   3  

state Maryland county St. Mary's

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  x  </u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture
<u>  x  </u> building(s)	<u>  x  </u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  x  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial
	<u>  x  </u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military
			<u>  </u> museum
			<u>  </u> park
			<u>  x  </u> private residence
			<u>  </u> religious
			<u>  </u> scientific
			<u>  </u> transportation
			<u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Rose Victoria Just

street & number PO Box 141 telephone no.: 301-475-5128

city, town Leonardtown state and zip code Maryland 20650

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber MRB 99

street & number    folio 472

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title   

date       federal    state    county    local   

depository for survey records   

city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. SM-537

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

Situated on the west side of Washington Street, the Clements house is located 0.1 mile north of Leonardtown wharf. The house is bounded on the west and north by woods and heavy brush, on the east by the road and to the south by a two story frame dwelling. The dwelling is oriented on a north-south axis only a few feet from Washington Street on a south sloping parcel.

Constructed in the c. 1910, the Clements house is a frame, two-and-a-half story, two bay, gable-front dwelling with a gable roof. Resting on a brick pier foundation, the dwelling's frame walls are covered with a layer of grey stucco. The gable roof is pierced by two brick chimney flues and is covered with pressed-metal shingles. On the primary (south) elevation, the first floor bays (a door and a two-over-two, double-hung sash window) are sheltered by a porch supported by four square posts. This elevation also features cornice returns just above the second floor windows.

This dwelling received only mid-level documentation due to the large number of historic resources in Leonardtown.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. SM-537

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

In the 1900s, Joseph H. and Mattie M. Key sold several 1/8 acre tracts of land along the west side of Washington Street in an effort to build up a residential community near the Leonardtown wharf. In 1908, Rosa M. Clements purchased one of these tracts. Soon after this transaction, she erected a frame, two-and-a-half story, gable-front house on the lot that has remained in the Clements family until 1981. Unlike any other building located on lower Washington Street, the Clements dwelling contributes to the significant diversity of early-twentieth century building types located in the Leonardtown wharf vicinity. It also symbolizes the significant growth and economic development in Leonardtown during that timeperiod as well as the continual presence of several distinct families in the wharf area over the past 80 years.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-537

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1/8 acreQuadrangle name Leonardtown, MdQuadrangle scale 1:24 000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA 

Zone	Easting					Northing			

B 

Zone	Easting					Northing			

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed reference.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Planning and Zoning date November 1996street & number 328 Washington Street telephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtown state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

SM-537, The Clements House  
St. Mary's County  
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber MRB 99, Folio 472

Grantee: Rose Victoria Just

Grantor: Victoria E. Clements

Date: June 30, 1981

Note: The deed notes that the tract consists of 1/8 of an acre (roughly 55x100 feet in size).

Reference: Liber CBG 67, Folio 25

Grantee: Victoria E. Clements and Philip O. Clements

Grantor: Mary Fowler

Date: December 18, 1956

Reference: Liber CBG 67, Folio 23

Grantee: Mary Fowler

Grantor: Philip O. and Victoria E. Clements

Date: December 18, 1956

Note: This deed notes that Rosa Clements died in April 20, 1955 leaving the property to at least 10 heirs. As a result of this, Philip O. and Victoria E. Clements had to acquire the other interests in the property. Ten deeds were subsequently filed between 1955 and 1956 as Philip and Victoria gained total ownership from their siblings and relatives. The other siblings included William M. Clements, Francis G. Clements, Louis Clements, William Maurice Clements, Rosa Kempe, Margaret Gulli, Walter Dawkins Clements, and Charles Clements.

Reference: Liber EBA 7, Folio 127

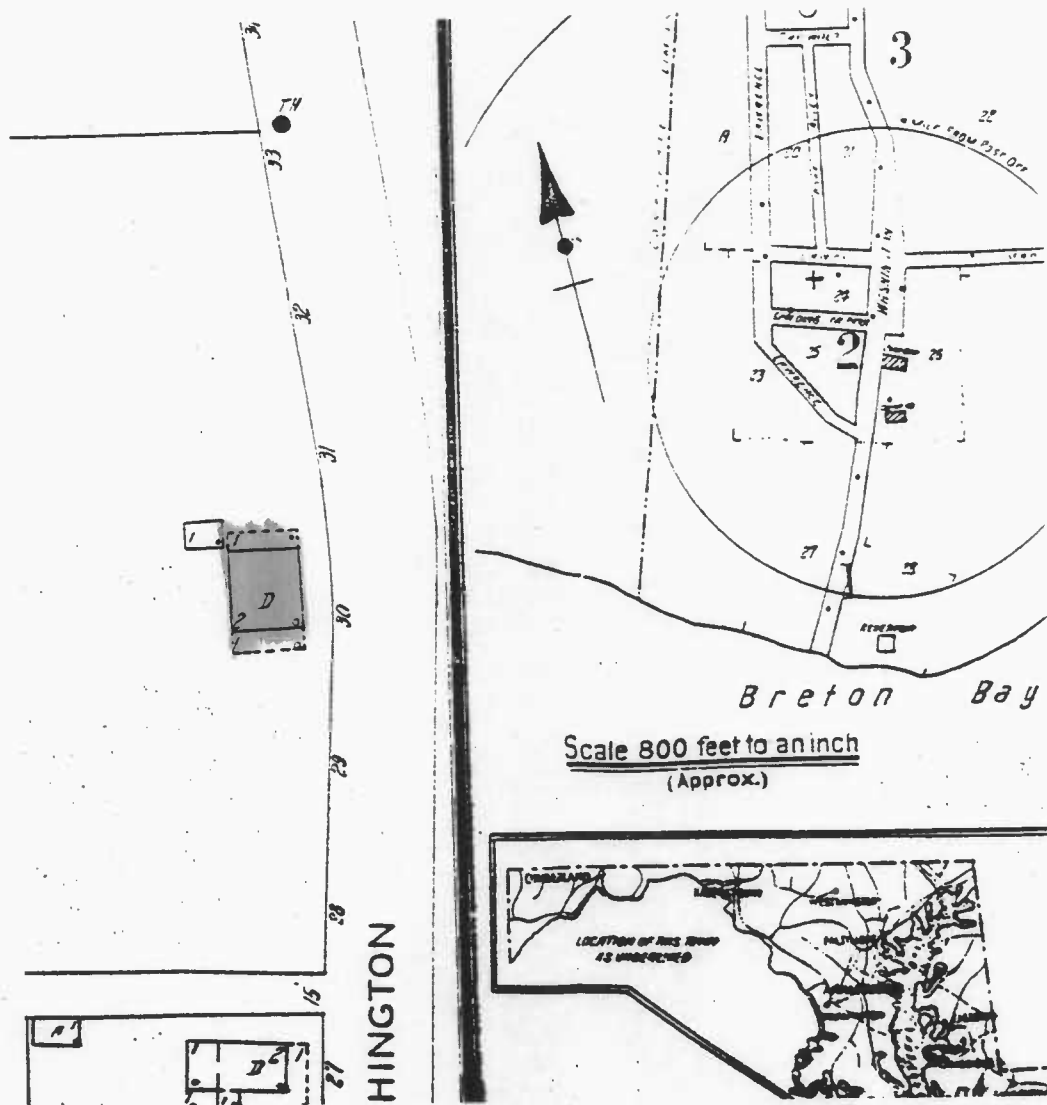
Grantee: Rosa M. Clements

Grantor: Joseph H. and Mattie M. Key

Date: March 11, 1908

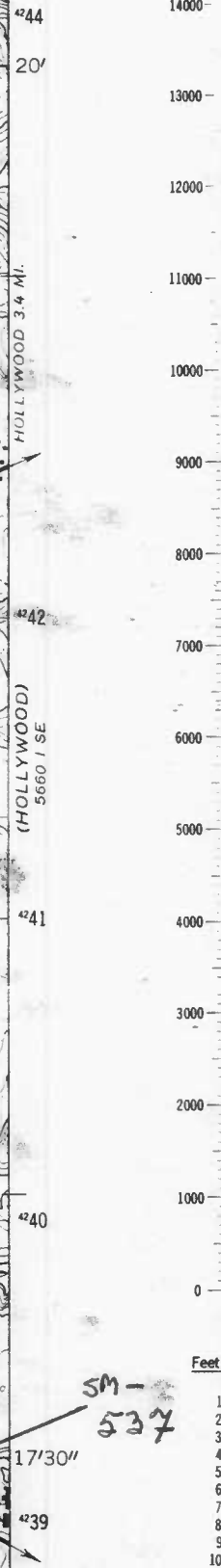
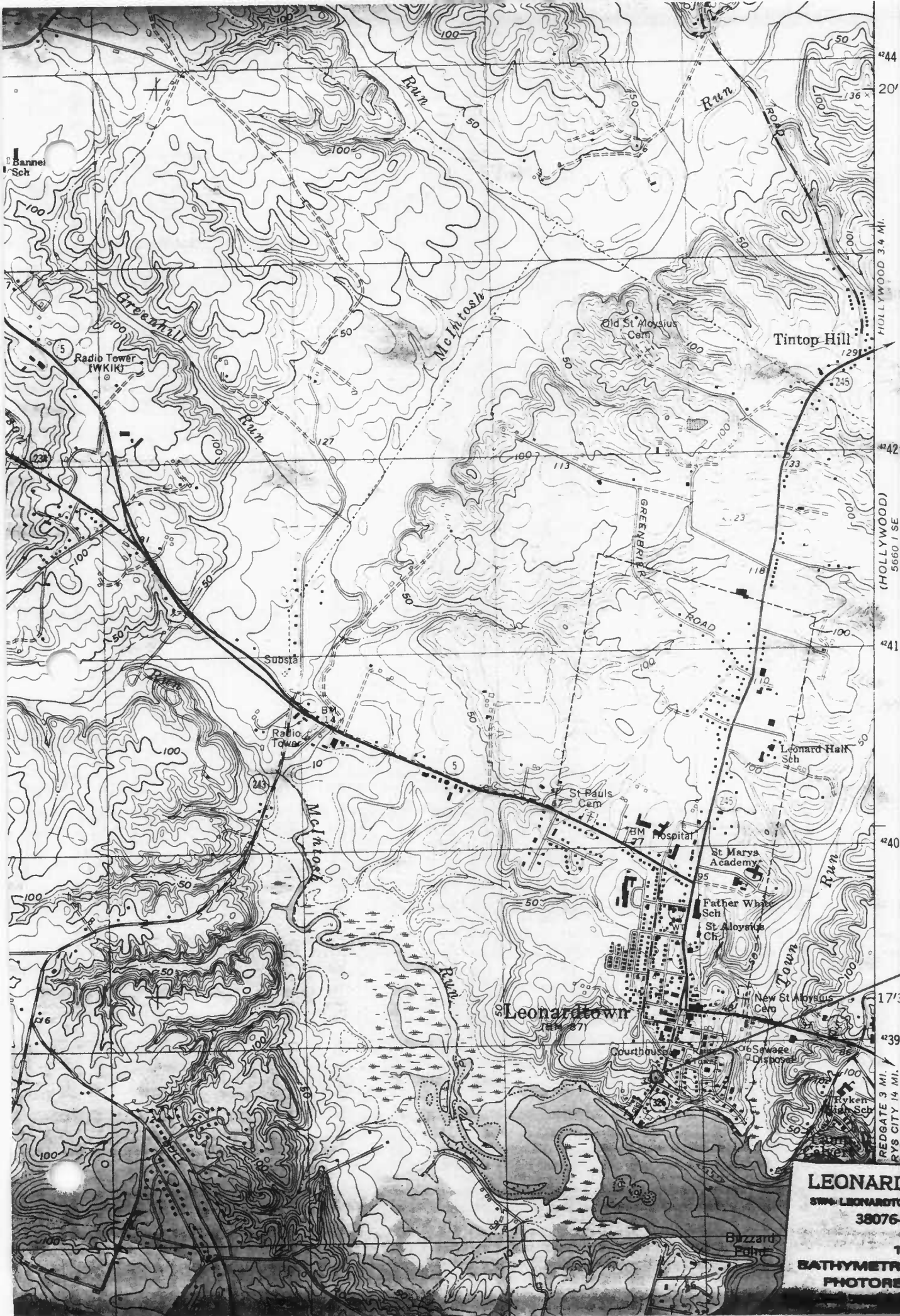
Note: Rosa Clements purchased 1/8 of an acre along Washington Street from the Keys.

SM-537, The Clements House  
St. Mary's County  
Significance 8.2



1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Leonardtown showing the Clements House. The dwelling was owned by Rosa M. Clements at the time of this map.





17'30"

REDGATE 3 MI.  
RYS CITY 14 MI.

5M-537

**LEONARDTOWN, MD.**  
SW 1/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE  
38076-C6-TB-024  
1963  
BATHYMETRY ADDED 1966  
PHOTOREVISED 1966



